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1851—1929

HISTORY OF

KIEF FAMILY

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Donated by:

Manley W. Mallett
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a friend of Mrs. U. G. Fletcher (Della Kief)
still living.

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FOUR ORIGINAL KIEFS.

George, Adam, Wolrad and Martin Kief.

Kief Family History

1851—1929

When horseless carriages were a dream, aeroplanes were not even considered, the idea of a radio was not conceived, talking moving pictures would have been like conversation from the evil spirits and hundreds of other mysterious inventions have occurred within the past eighty years, since the original Rudolph Kief and family sailed from their Fatherland, Germany, to the land of their dreams, America.

The ways and means of living and traveling in those days are but an interesting story to the young folk of today, while the inhabitants of the lands almost a century ago would have considered our surroundings at the present time an ideal fairy tale.

It has been stated that the Kief family originated in Ireland and during a religious war, a number of centuries ago, they were forced to flee from Ireland to Germany. The family name was then O'Kief and after settling in Germany the prefix "O" was dropped and from then on the name "Kief" was used, according to statements handed down by our forefathers.

America By Sail Boat.

Rudolph Kief and his family sailed from Germany in 1851, not in a large well balanced steamship, with state room and porter service, but on a closely quartered sail boat, suffering hardships which all pioneers had to face.

A few of the surviving descendants remember listening with interest to their fathers and grandfathers tell of the trip across the Atlantic, through the Gulf of Mexico, up the Mississippi river and thence on the Illinois river to Pekin, Illinois, then a settlement in the center of

the United States, but now a thriving city in Central Illinois.

These brave travelers undertook almost as great a responsibility and a chance 80 years ago, as did Lindberg when he ventured from the United States to France by aeroplane and was successful in his undertaking, the first flyer to prove that a trip through the air from one country to another could be possible.

This colony of travelers consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Kief, their five sons and five daughters. Their eldest son, Wolrad and wife and their two children, George, age 2½ and Anna, who was about a year younger, were included in this group. The other sons and daughters were: Adam, George, Martin, Philip, Elizabeth, Catherine, Fredericka, Margaret and Lena. Included in this colony were Mr. and Mrs. John Flick and several children. Mrs. Flick was a niece of the original Rudolph Kief.

Hardships Traveling.

It took them three months to travel from Germany to the United States by sail boat, considerable longer then originally planned. When the food and water supply was loaded on the boat, there was not room for any great surplus stock, so only the necessary amount was placed on board.

Unfortunately for these travelers the wind was against them many times, delaying the trip and making their stay on the water of greater duration than planned. Because of this barrier there was danger of the food and water supply exhausting, therefore during the last few days each traveler was given an equal portion. There was then much anxiety as to whether or not the food would last until they reach America, although it did.

The last few days were extremely hard, not only because of the shortage of food, but sickness and death entered the family circle, when a small child, son of Mr. and Mrs. Flick was claimed by death. The body was kept on boat until they reached the Island of St. Thomas, a spot of land located near Cuba, and it was there burial was made.

The trip then continued and when the mouth of the Mississippi river was reached the boat docked at New Orleans. The travelers then boarded a lighter vessel and continued their way up this river to St. Louis and then onto the Illinois river to Pekin.

Landed at Pekin.

Pekin was reached at ten o'clock at night and the weary travelers by that time were anxious to put their feet on dry land. They then alighted and while the family waited on the sand banks, Wolrad started to locate a cousin, who later became Mrs. Matthew Reinhardt, a sister of Mrs. Flick. This cousin came to America a number of years previous and was making her home in Pekin. She had heard previously that the family was coming to this country and was overjoyed when she was aroused from her slumber shortly before midnight, to learn the colony had landed. Mrs. Reinhardt accompanied Wolrad on his return trip to the river to meet the emigrants.

One of the greatest desires for coming to this country was to fulfill the wish of Rudolph Kief, who was devoted to his cousin Rudolph Fry, who previously settled in Pekin. Upon arriving, it was learned Mr. Fry had been claimed by death and this sad news was so keenly felt that Rudolph Kief expressed regret that he had left his Fatherland.

The cholera epidemic struck the community, claiming the lives of many, including Lena Kief, who had been in this country but a short time. Within a few years Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Kief passed away and this family of three was buried near Havana, a community which became the home of Margaret Kief Foster soon after her marriage.

Wolrad Kief's first job was to aid in building fences for..... Prettyman. Unable to speak the language in this country, he found considerable trouble in knowing just what to do. Other members of the family secured work in the same community and had the same trouble to overcome. In seeking empolyment, the family was soon seperated.

Wolrad Kief Eldest Son.

Wolrad Kief was born in Reilingen, Gros Schwertzigen, Baden, Germany, November 3, 1827, and died in Lincoln, Illinois, October 6, 1916, at the age of 88 years, 11 months and 3 days. He was buried in Union cemetery at Lincoln. In 1847 in Germany he was married to Magdalena Wehrer, the latter preceding her husband in death by twelve years.

Mr. and Mrs. Kief made their home on a farm near Pekin for a number of years, where they lived the lives of true Christians and carried their religious beliefs into their daily tasks. He was one of the founders of the present St. Paul's Evangelical church in Pekin and was the last charter member. Catherine, Rudolph and Margaret were children born to them while they resided in Pekin.

After a few years spent in Pekin this family came to Logan county and settled on a farm in the Sugar creek community near Hartsburg where Louis, Louise and Lena were born.

Through Mr. Kief's infleunce, a small congregation was founded in Lincoln and the present St. John's church began its existence. He lived to see both of these churches celebrate their golden jubilee and at the Pekin celebration he was highly honored in various ways because of his connection with the founding of the congregation. Children, grandchildren and even greatgrandchildren learned to look upon him as an ideal Christian.

Almost three quarters of a century ago Wolrad Kief became a resident of Logan county, when Lincoln, Ill., was yet in its infancy and the country around was a vast prairie. This family suffered hardships, which all pioneers suffered in the early days. Wolrad Kief served his Fatherland in the war of 1847 and 1848 and delighted to tell of the many war incidents which he encountered.

Mr. and Mrs. Wolrad Kief were the parents of twelve children; four died in infancy. The eight who grew to manhood and womanhood were: George Kief, Hartsburg, Ill., (deceased); Anna Kief Armbrust, Lincoln, Ill., (deceased); Katherine Kief Lohman, Pekin, Ill. (deceased); Margaret Kief Altman, Lincoln, (deceased); Rudolph Kief, Pekin; Louis Kief, Lincoln, (deceased); Louise Kief Esders and Lena Kief Gundlach, both residing in Lincoln.

The deaths of Wolrad, Martin and Adam Kief occurred the same year, two of the brothers, Martin and Adam, passing away in January 1916, just 14 days apart and the following October Wolrad was claimed by death.

Adam Kief, Second Son.

In 1829, one hundred years ago, Adam Kief was born in Reilingen, Baden, Germany. He likewise came to America in 1851 and died in 1916. He was the father of seven children, Katherine and Peter died in infancy. The following survive: John Kief, Chicago; Wm. Kief, Huron, South Dakota; Daniel Kief, Low Point, Illinois; Elizabeth Kief Fetters, Eureka, and Anna Kief Ziehr, Harris, Iowa.

George Kief, Third Son.

George Kief spent most of his life in the vicinity of Eureka, his death occurred March 29, 1911, at Dudley, Mo. He was the father of seven children. Rudolph and Lilly are deceased and the following survive: Elizabeth Kief Knoll, Margaret Van Fossen, Martin Kief, Albert Kief, Emma Kief Woods and Minnie Kief Leighton. The widow survives and resides at Eureka, Ill. She is 83 years of age.

Martin Kief, Fourth Son.

Martin Kief died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Wm. Hildebrandt, in Mt. Hope township, McLean county, Illinois, a week after he suffered a stroke of paralysis. Burial was made in the cemetery at McLean, Ill.

He was born in Reilingen, Baden, Germany, January 29, 1837 and came to America at the age of 14 years, landing in Pekin with his parents. His marriage to Elizabeth Lohman occurred January 29, 1867. Mrs. Kief survives and resides at McLean, Illinois. They were the parents of eleven children. Two children preceded the father in death and the following nine survive: Rudolph Kief, Chicago; Mrs. Wm. Hildebrandt, McLean; Mrs. J. H. Hunt, Mrs. O. W. Selle, Mrs. Ben Adams, and Edward and August, Chicago; Baltz Kief, Pekin and Wm. Kief of Plattsmouth, Neb. Deceased children are Elizabeth Kief and Clara K. Kiefer.

Margaret Faster—Phillip Kief.

Margaret Kief Faster died many years ago, leaving no children. Her burial was made at her home, near Havana, Ill.

Phillip Kief is survived by several children, but William and Clara are the only two whose names could be obtained at this time. He met a tragic death, when struck by a train at Roberts, Illinois.

Elizabeth K. Hoker.

Elizabeth Kief Hoker was also a resident of Eureka, where her death and burial occurred. She was the mother of seven children, including: Chris, Adam, Jacob and John Hoker, all surviving. The deceased children are: Margaret Hoker Miller, Anna Hoker Orth and Rudolph Hoker.

Fredericka K. Staudinger.

More then half a century ago the death of Fredericka Kief Staudinger occurred at Pekin, where burial was also made. Three deaths occurred at that time, the mother passing away when twin babies were born, leaving eight children to mourn her loss. They included: Mrs. Catherine Becker, Pekin; Mrs. Elizabeth Voll, Pekin, (deceased); John and George Staudinger, Pekin, (deceased); Mrs. Magdalena Ehni, Pekin, (deceased); Martin and William Staudinger, Pekin and Anna Staudinger Hilde, Dillon, Ill.

Katherine K. Ziehr.

Katherine Kief Ziehr was a resident of Iroquois county, Ill., where her death occurred and burial was made. She was the mother of ten children, eight surviving and include: Elizabeth Wentler, Adam and Phillip Ziehr, Margaret Stalley, Kathryn Stalley, Martin Ziehr, Carrie Ziehr Kief and Rudolph. George and Eva Ziehr are deceased.

Fortunes and Misfortunes.

Joy, scorrow, illness and death have entered this circle the same as all others. We have shared in the misfortunes of those around us and are also happy to join them, when their hearts are filled with good cheer. These happenings are common in all families, but the tie that binds in the Kief circle makes each individual take the pleasant or unpleasant occurrances all the more serious.

Each year the shadow of death visits the group, but at the same time more members are added to the circle to keep the home fires burning.

In Edgar A. Guest's poem, "Sorrow", which is given as follows, the poet brings forth beautifully his feeling in regard to passing on:

"SORROW"

You are lonely and you miss him, and you mourn him now he's dead.
But to spare you all the heartache, would you call him back again?
Would you want him to suffer all life's misery in your stead?
Would you buy your days of comfort with his hours of endless pain?
It was sweet to have him with you, and it's often now you moan.
But would you have him suffer, iust to keep him for your own?

Be not troubled by the notion Heaven is very far away,
It is nearer than men fancy, it is nearer than they know,
And the lovde ones who have left us every night and every day.
Seem to draw us closer to them as their memories brighter grow.
They are safe in Heaven's keeping, they are free from hurt and pain,
But to save us from our weeping we would call them back again.

'Tis for them we bear this anguish, 'tis for them we stay alone,
God has called them up to Heaven that they need not suffer more,
To a fairer realm than this is, have their lovely spirits flown
And they dwell in perfect splendor on that not so distant shore.
Once we watched them in their anguish, once we saw them in their pain,
Now, to spare ourselves this heartache, should we call them back again?

Top Row—Rudolph Lohman, Joey Smith, Clara Kief, Bert McManaway, Frank Meyers, Cora Kief, Chas. Koehler, Clarence McManaway.
ea Koehler, Hilma Kief, Irma Esders, Frank Meyers, Sr.
2nd Row—Joe Meyers, Billy Kief, Geo. W. Esders, Gertrude Kief, Mrs. Louis Kief, Mrs. Rudolph Kief, Carl Gundlach, Mrs. A. D. Dancey.
lly" Esders, Irma Correll, ... Verna McManaway, Norma McManaway, Alfred Meyers.
3rd Row—Ada Lou Sims, J. B. Lohman, Mrs. Martin Kief, Mrs. G. W. Esders, Louis Kief, Rudolph Kief, Mrs. C. P. Gundlach, Mrs. Geo.
f. Mrs. Bert McManaway, Mrs. F. Meyers.
4th Row—Charles, Catherine, James, and Duane Dancey, Leslie Kief, Herman Lohman, Louis Lohman, Fred Dancey, Horace Fletcher, Mrs.
G. Fletcher and son George David.

- Wolrad Kief, Lincoln, Ill. (Deceased)
  - 4 Died in Infancy
  - Geo. Kief, Hartsburg, Ill. (Deceased)
    - Wolrad "Billy" Kief, Hartsburg, Ill.
      - Clarence McManaway, Chicago
        - David McMa
        - Robt. McMa
      - Norma Quisenberry, Lincoln, Ill.
      - Verna Rademaker, Hartsburg, Ill.
    - Emma Kief McManaway, Hartsburg, Ill.
    - Nora Kief Meyers, Pekin, Ill.
      - Alfred Meyers
      - Frank Meyers
        - Kenneth Mey
        - William Mey
      - Joe Meyers
    - Clarence Kief, Hartsburg, Ill.
    - Clara Kief, Hartsburg, Ill.
    - Della Kief Fletcher, Springfield, Ill.
      - Horace Fletcher
      - Wm. Lincoln Fletcher
      - Geo. David Fletcher
    - Mable Kief Rentschler, Canton, Ill.
    - Leslie Kief, Chicago, Ill.
      - Lyle Virginia Kief
      - Robert W. Kief
      - Patricia Howell
    - Hilma Kief Howell, Springfield, Ohio
    - 3 children deceased
  - Anna Kief Armbrust, Lincoln, Ill. (Deceased)
  - Catherine Kief Lohman, Pekin, Ill. (Deceased)
    - Arthur Lohman, (Deceased)
    - Rudolph Lohman (Deceased)
    - Martin B. Lohman, Pekin, Ill.
      - Nadine Lohman
    - Bertha Lohman Dancey, Pekin, Ill.
      - Fred Dancey
      - Catherine Dancey
      - James Dancey
      - Charles Dancey
    - Henry Lohman, Minneapolis, Minn.
      - Clara Lohman
      - Mary Jane Lohman
      - Henry Lohman, Jr.
      - Arthur Lohman
    - Fred Lohman, Minneapolis, Minn.
    - Herman Lohman, Pekin, Ill.
    - Althea Lohman Koehler, Minneapolis, Minn.
      - Charles B. Koehler, Jr.
    - Louis Lohman, St. Paul, Minn.
    - Paul Lohman, Pekin, Ill.

Wolrad Kief, Lincoln, Ill. (Deceased)	Catherine Kief Lohman, Pekin, Ill. (Deceased)	(Deceased)	
		Martin B. Lohman, Pekin, Ill.	Nadine Lohman
		Bertha Lohman Dancey, Pekin, Ill.	Fred Dancey Catherine Dancey James Dancey Charles Dancey
		Henry Lohman, Minneapolis, Minn.	Clara Lohman Mary Jane Lohman Henry Lohman, Jr. Arthur Lohman
		Fred Lohman, Minneapolis, Minn.	
		Herman Lohman, Pekin, Ill.	
		Althea Lohman Koehler, Minneapolis, Minn.	Charles B. Koehler, Jr.
		Louis Lohman, St. Paul, Minn.	
		Paul Lohman, Pekin, Ill.	
	Rudolph Kief, Pekin, Ill.	Eugene Kief, (Deceased)	
		Albert Kief, Pekin, Ill.	
		Gertrude Kief Apfel, Pekin, Ill.	Arthur Apfel Amanda Apfel
		Cora Kief Alfs, Kimberly, Minn.	Ruth Arlene Alfs James Gerd Alfs
	Margaret Kief Altman, Lincoln, Ill. (Deceased)	Florence Altman Daniels, Puyallup, Wash.	Margaret Daniels Allen David Daniels Mildred Daniels *Beverly Jean*
		Fred Altman, Grangeville, Idaho	Dorothy Altman
		Herbert Altman, Lincoln, Ill. (Deceased)	
		Alma Altman Phelan, Fort Worth, Tex.	Mary Margaret Phelan Betty Phelan Arthur Phelan, Jr.
		Walter Altman, Lewiston, Idaho	Rex Altman Marjroie Jean Altman Pershing Kief Altman
		Emmanuel Altman, Grangeville, Idaho	Bonnie Mae Altman Torrence Altman Verla Lorraine Altman
	Louis Kief, Lincoln, Ill. (Deceased)		
	Louise Kief Esders, Lincoln, Ill.	Cora Elizabeth "Dolly" Esders Irma Magdalena Esders Geo. Wolrad Esders (Deceased)	

Lena K. Gundlach,
Lincoln, Illinois

Adam
n Kief,
Deceased.

John Kief, Chicago.		
William Kief, Huron, S. D.	Edna Kief Stella Kief Zeck Martha Kief Erma Kief Glenn Kief.	Paul Zeck
Daniel Kief, Low Point, Ill.	Lester Kief Leora Kief Harold Kief	Loren Kief
Elizabeth Kief Fetters, Eureka, Ill.	Katherine Sauder Irene Fetters Dean Fetters	Richard Sauder
Anna Kief Ziehr, Harris, Iowa.	Ross Ziehr Myrna Ziehr Ollie Ziehr	
Katherine and Peter Kief died in infancy.		

George Kief,
Dudley, Mo.
(Deceased)
Kathryne Kief
Wife—
Survives at
Eureka, Ill.

- Elizabeth Kief Knoll, Rankin, Ill.
  - Thirteen children. Names could not be secured.
- Martin Kief, Deuning, N. Mex.
- Margaret Van Fosson, Eureka, Ill.
  - Thelma
  - Alma
  - Margaret
- Albert Kief, Lebanon, Ore.
  - Lucy Kief Ziehr
    - Alice Ziehr
  - Sophia Kief
  - Bertha Kief
  - Lawrence Kief
  - Raymond Kief
  - Louise Kief
  - John Kief
- Emma Kief Woods, Peoria, Ill.
- Minnie Kief Leighton, Eureka, Ill.
  - Mabel Leighton
- Lilly Kief, (Deceased)
- Ruben Kief, (Deceased)

		Martin Kief, Chicago, Ill.	Martin Kief, Jr.
		Mary Kief Stasell Streator, Ill.	Patricia Kief Eleanor Stasell Henry Stasell, Jr.
	Rudolph Kief, Chicago, Ill.	Edna Kief Gustavsen, Chicago, Ill.	Kathyrn Gustavsen Rena Gustavsen
		Harry Kief, Streator, Ill.	
		George Kief, Streator, Ill.	
		Caroline Hildebrandt, (Deceased)	
		Martin Hildebrandt, McLean, Ill.	Wm. Martin Hildebrandt Alice Caroline Hildebrandt
		Frieda Meyer McLean, Ill.	Delmar Meyer Florence Meyer
	Margaret Kief Hildebrandt, McLean, Ill.	Anton Hildebrandt, McLean, Ill.	Margie Hildebrandt Rosemary Hildebrandt Martha Jane Hildebrandt
		William Hildebrandt, Jr. McLean, Ill.	
		Herbert Hildebrandt, Bloomington, Ill.	Joan Hildebrandt
		Louise Liecheidt, Pekin, Ill.	Doris Liecheidt Wayne Liecheidt
	Katherine Kief Hunt Chicago, Ill.		
Martin Kief, (deceased) Wife Elizabeth Kief, survives at McLean, Ill.	Baltz Kief, Pekin, Ill.	Mabel Kief Hall, Pekin, Ill.	Verna Louise Hall
	Wm. Kief, Plattsmouth, Neb.	Franklin M. Kief, Arthur L. Kief, Leona Kief Hart, Pauline Kief Morse, Emelia Kief, Lewis Kief, August Kief, Dorothy L. Kief, Edgar C. Kief,	Leo Morse, Jr.
	Elizabeth Kief, (deceased)		
	Clara Kief Kiefer, (deceased)	Carl Kiefer, Chicago Walter Kiefer, Chicago	Walter John Kiefer Carl Kiefer, Jr. Yvette Kiefer
	Emma Kief Selle, Chicago, Ill.		
	Edward Kief, Chicago, Ill.	Oran Elmer Kief,	
	August Kief, Chicago, Ill.		
	Marie Kief Adams, Chicago, Ill.	Phyllis Ann Adams	

Elizabeth Kief Hoker wife of Jacob Hoker (Both Deceased)

- Rudolph Hoker (Deceased)
  - Paul Hoker, Peoria, Ill.
  - Mariria Hoker
  - Elizabeth Hoker
- Margaret Hoker Muller, (Deceased)
  - John Muller
  - Susie Muller
  - Anna Muller
  - 2 others
- Chris Hoker, David City, Neb.
  - Stella Hoker, David City, Neb.
- Adam Hoker, Fairbury, Ill.
  - Roy Hoker, Milwaukee, Wis.
- Jacob Hoker, Fairbury, Ill.
  - Jessie H. Conrad, Chicago
- Anna Hoker Orth (Deceased)
  - William Orth, Eureka, Ill.
    - Harold Orth
    - Donald Orth
    - Rachael Orth
  - Silas Orth
    - Margaret Orth
    - Frances Orth
    - Eugene Orth
  - Katie Orth Smith, Metamora, Ill.
    - Anna Smith
    - Evelyn Smith
    - Nelson Smith
    - Ralph Smith
    - Cecil Smith
  - Theo. Orth, Fairbury, Ill.
    - Wm. Hugh Orth
    - Edward A. Orth
  - Jesse Orth, Washington, Ill.
- John Hoker, Fort Dodge, Ia.
  - Beatrice Ousley, Madison, Wis.
  - Loraine Blackmore, Minneapolis, Minn.
  - John P. Hoker, Fort Dodge, Ia.

- Katherine S. Becker, Pekin, Ill.
- Elizabeth Staudinger Voll, (deceased)
  - Harry Voll, (deceased)
  - Kathryn Voll, Pekin, Ill.
  - Mabel Voll Dwyer Pekin, Ill.
    - Florence Dwyer,
  - Ernest Voll, Pekin, Ill.
- John Staudinger, (deceased)
  - Earl Staudinger, Wahoo, Neb.
  - Marie S. Tuefall, Phoenix, Arz.
  - Harry Staudinger, Santa Monica, Cal.
  - Norma S. Risk, Nebraska.
- Kief (deceased)
- Geo. Staudinger (deceased)
- Magdalena Staudinger Ehni, (deceased)
  - George Ehni, Pekin, Ill.
    - George Ehni, Jr.
    - Glenn Ehni,
    - Ralph Ehni,
- Martin Staudinger, Pekin, Ill.
- Anna Staudinger Hild, Dillon, Ill.
- Wm. Staudinger, Pekin, Ill.

Kath ryn (Kief) Ziehr, wife of Peter Ziehr (both Deceased)

- Eva Ziehr (Deceased)
- Elizabeth Z. Wentler, Harris, Iowa — Eight children
- Kathryn Z. Stalley, Harris, Iowa — Four children
- Margaret Z. Stalley, Harris, Iowa — No information available in regard to children
- Carrie Ziehr Kief, Huron, S. Dak.
  - Edna
  - Stella Zeck — Paul Zeck
  - Martha
  - Erma
  - Glenn
- Adam Ziehr, LaHague, Ill. — No information available in regard to children
- Philip Ziehr, Lake Park, Iowa
- Martin Ziehr, Nebraska — Four children
- Rudolph Ziehr, Harris, Iowa
  - Myran
  - Ross
  - Ollie
- Geo. Ziehr, (Deceased)

Kief Family Reunions

"Blest Be The Tie That Binds"

The custom of relatives gathering at the time of death, has always been followed closely by this family. Words of sympathy are extended and everything possible is done to aid the immediate sufferers. The joy of having your family come at this time, is the outcome of the present annual family reunions, when relatives gather, not on a sad mission, but for a day filled with joy and merriment.

First Reunion in 1919

Descendents of the Wolrad Kief family held the first reunion in 1919 and since then they have gladly welcomed all relatives, who have Kief blood in their veins, and their families. In this way they have learned to know the families and become closer to them, all looking forward with much pleasure and interest to this annual event.

In 1919, the summer after the World War ended on November 11, 1918, a reunion of the Wolrad Kief decendants took place in Mineral Springs Park at Pekin, Ill. This gathering was planned to welcome members of the family who were in the service. This event was so very pleasant, that steps were taken immediately to make the gathering an annual affair and extend the invitation to the entire relationship.

Honored War Veterans.

Special guests at the first reunion were Louis Kief Lohman of Pekin, who was sergeant in the 11th field artillery and was decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross by General Pershing, on his 23rd birthday

anniversary, for a heroic feat under fire; Leslie Kief of Hartsburg, who served as first musician on the S. S. North Dakota, and Herman Lohman of Pekin, physical instructor at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

Those present at the first family reunion were: Mrs. George Kief and daughters, Clara and Hilma and sons, W. G., and Leslie; Mr. and Mrs. D. B. McManaway and children, Clarence, Norma and Verna of Hartsburg; Mrs. Della Kief Fletcher and sons Horace and George, Decatur, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Meyers and sons, Alfred, Frank and Joe and Miss Irma Correll of Green Valley; Mr. and Mrs. Louis Kief, Mr. and Mrs. George Esders and daughters, Cora and Irma and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gundlach, Lincoln, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Koehler of Minneapolis; Mrs. Elizabeth Kief, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Kief and daughter, Gertrude and Cora; J. B. Lohman and sons, Rudolph, Herman, Louis and Paul and Mrs. Al Dancey and children Duane, Fred, Catherine, James and Charles Dancey, Miss Ada Lou Sims and Mrs. Louise Hill of Pekin and Joey Smith of Chicago.

The family reunion is an annual all day affair, taking place the Sunday previous to Labor Day. The relatives gather during the morning, all happy to meet, many not having the privilege of greeting each other since the reunion previous. At noon all gather around a dinner table and after prayer is offered, the delicious menu is heartily enjoyed. A brief program and business meeting usually follows the dinner, after which the family visits informally for a few hours, before departing for their homes.

Officers elected at the first reunion were: Mrs. Louise Kief Esders, Lincoln, president; Mrs. Emma Kief McManaway, Hartsburg, vice president; Miss Hilma Kief, Hartsburg, secretary-treasurer. During the business session it was voted to hold the 1920 reunion in Lincoln, Ill.

1920 Reunion in Lincoln.

The second reunion of the Kief family took place at Brainerd Park, Lincoln, Ill., August 29, 1920. Dinner was served in the dining hall and the business session and program took place in the auditorium. Officers serving in 1919 were re-elected at the 1920 meeting and Hartsburg was chosen as the gathering place in 1921.

1921 Reunion at Hartsburg.

In 1921 the third family reunion took place on the creek banks near Hartsburg. It was there a picnic dinner was served at noon and quite a number of relatives had the privilege of attending the reunion for the first time. It was voted to re-elect the officers for another year, since they so efficiently served in the past.

1922 Reunion at Mackinaw Valley.

Mackinaw Valley park is a spot of beauty, located a few miles from Pekin and it was there the fourth reunion of the Kief family took place. The day was ideal and this gathering came up to the high standard of those in the past. Officers elected on this day were: Mrs. Louise Kief Esders, Lincoln, president; Louis Kief Lincoln, vice president; Paul Kief Lohman, Pekin, secretary-treasurer.

1923 Reunion at Pekin.

Dinner, visiting, horse shoe pitching and strolling through the park made the fifth Kief family reunion a pleasant one at Mineral Springs park, Pekin, Ill. Reelection of officers who ably served the year past took place and Lincoln was chosen as the site for the coming gathering.

1924 Reunion at Lincoln.

Seventy-one relatives assembled in Lincoln, Ill., for the sixth reunion, which took place Sept. 7, 1924 at

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ing for assistance and I ask that no malice be held against anyone, if an error has occurred. The history is not as complete as it should be, but in many cases I found it impossible to secure the information needed, therefore I did the best that I could and I wish to thank those who helped to make it possible.

Cora Elizabeth "Dolly" Esders.

MRS. LOUISE KIEF ESDERS

Lincoln, Illinois

Family reunion president since organization in 1919.

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